THE MEADORS AND THE MEADOWS

EDWARD KIRBY MEADOR

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THE MEADORS AND THE MEADOWS

MEADOR

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Compiled by

EDWARD KIRBY MEADOR

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Dedicated to the spirit
of Ideals and Progress.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

In compiling this work there were and are yet many gaps to be filled. We hope to find and list all the thousands of Meadors, Meadows and Meaders, as well as other names derived therefrom, and tracing their ancestry back to England.

All readers, all members of the family and its descendants, or anyone having information which should be published herein, are invited to forward it for publishing in a later edition.

It is estimated that there are several millions of the family scattered throughout the United States. Our ambition is to unite this great host into a giant Family Association. The men and women of this family has on the whole maintained a high standard of honor and honesty in their dealings with others and themselves. United in an Association we can exert an enormous influence for good in the Nation. There is no lack of ability, as there have been many ministers and teachers among us, and the Nation seems to be drifting away from its true interests and traditions to which we hold.

Our gratitude is due many who have helped in this compilation. Especial thanks are due Mrs. Ellen Huddleston-McManaway, a daughter of Mary Gardner Meador-Huddleston, and Mr. John E. Jamison, husband of Lulu J. Meador, for a great many items from Bedford County, Virginia, the home of many Meadors.

The general history was largely compiled by The Media Research Bureau, Washington, D.C., with whose permission it is published.

EDWARD KIRBY MEADOR,

324 Newbury Street,
Boston, Mass., December, 1941.

THE MEADORS AND THE MEADOWS

The Meadors and the Meadows

THE NAME AND FAMILY OF MEADOW(S)

The Family in England

The name of Meadows or Meadow * is derived from the residence of its first bearers "at the meadow or meadows." In ancient English and early American records the name is found in the various spellings of Medowe, Medewe, Medew, Meader, Meaders, Meador, Meadours, Medo, Medow, Medowes, Medows, Meadowes, Meadowe, Meadow, Meadows, and others. Of these, the last two are the forms most frequently used in America in modern times. *Meader* may well have been a corruption of *Meadow* through the same channel as *Meador,* that is, through the colloquial pronunciation of *w* as *r*.

Early seated in the English Counties of Norfolk and Suffolk, as well as in the city and vicinity of London, the families bearing this name were, on the whole, of the gentry and yeomanry of Great Britain.

According to historians, the family traces its descent from Edmund de Wytnesham, who was living at Wytnesham, County Suffolk, in the latter part of the eleventh century. His son, Robart de Medewe (Robert of the Meadow), was so called from his residence in

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the vale of Wytnesham. From Robart was descended Peter de Medewe, of the year 1188, who was the progenitor of Robart de Medewe, who was living at Hasketon, County Suffolk, in 1328. This Robart was the father of Jeffery de Medewe, who had a son of the same name, who married Margaret Fairfax about 1441 and was the father by her of Jeffery, John, and William Medow, of whom the first left an only son, named John.

John Medew or Medow, the second of the last-mentioned brothers, married a Miss Butler and had an only son, named William, who married Deborah, daughter of Edward Duke. William died in 1540 and was succeeded in estates at Wytnesham (now Witnesham) by his son, William Medowe, who left issue by his wife Agnes of William and Daniel, of whom the younger son will be mentioned later. William Meadow(s), the elder of these brothers, married Grizel, daughter of William Mynter, and had three sons, Thomas, Daniel, and Ralph. Of these, Thomas was the father by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of John Lea, of Sir Thomas Meadows, who was Mayor of Yarmouth in 1662; Daniel married Amy, daughter of John Brame, and was the father of Mary and Daniel, of whom the latter (b. 1630) married Joyce, daughter of the Reverend Edward Rivers, and left issue by her of three sons, Daniel, Edmond, and John, of whom the last became a clergyman and left issue by his wife, Bridget Proctor, of John, Daniel (b. 1687), and Elizabeth Meadows; and Ralph was the father of William, Ralph, Mary, and Elizabeth, of whom the first married Mary Rant and had a son named John, who was the father by his wife, Mary Vaughan, of John Meadows, of Henley Hall.

Daniel (b. 1687), the son of the Reverend John

Meadows, married Frances, daughter of Francis Thornylow, and had issue by her of Lucy and John, of whom the son was married in 1751 to Frances, daughter of Humphrey Brewster. To this union were born Philip, Daniel, Frances, and Lucinda. Philip, the eldest of these, married Catherine, daughter of Robert Rust, and was the father by her of two sons, the Reverend Philip and Daniel Rust Meadows.

Daniel Medowe or Meadow, the before-mentioned younger son of William and Agnes, resided at Chattisham Hall, also in Suffolk. By his wife, Elizabeth Lee, he was the father of Daniel, John, Thomas, Sir Philip, Robert, Margaret, and Elizabeth. Of the last-mentioned brothers, Daniel married a daughter of Sir Richard Broke or Brooks, of Norton, and was the father of John and Robert; John married three times, his wives being Anne Rant, Sarah Fairfax, and Anna Beaumont, of whom the second gave him seven children, John, Daniel, Philip, Sarah, Rebecca, Thomas, and Mary; Thomas made his home at London; and Sir Philip, who became ambassador to Portugal in 1656, in 1661 married Constance, daughter of Francis Lucy. To this union was born Sir Philip Meadow(s), who married Dorothy Boscawen, sister of Hugh, first Viscount Falmouth, and was the father by her of a son named Philip, who married Frances, daughter of William Pierrepont, Viscount Newark, and was the father by her of, among others, a son named Charles, who was elevated to the peerage.

As early as 1429 one "John atte (at the) Medowe" was rector of Metton, County Norfolk; and about the same time "William att the Meadow" was rector of East Beckham, County Norfolk.

* * *

In 1689 one Ralph Meadowes, of London, was the father of a son named William.

The connecting links between the family in England and the first settlers of the name in America are not all clear, but it is probable that all of the Meadows and Meadow lines trace their descent from one or another of the before-mentioned branches.

* * *

The Virginia Meadors

As early as 1636 Ambrose Meador received a grant of land in Isle of Wight County. Two years later, 1638, two other members of the family, Nicholas and Jonathan or John Meador, came to America and settled in Virginia. Of these, Nicholas made his home in Charles City County, while the other settled in Henrico County.

* * *

New England Meadows

Before 1641 Philip Meadows, settled at Roxbury, Mass. In that year he married Elizabeth, daughter of Stephen Iggulden or Iggleden. They had at least one child, named Hannah, and probably removed to another part of New England.

John Meader, who came from England to America about 1650, settled before 1653 at Dover, N.H., and was living in 1656 at Oyster River, now Durham, N.H. By his wife, Abigail Follett, whom he married about 1653, he was the father of Elizabeth, John, Joseph, Sarah, Nathaniel, and, possibly, Nicholas.

John, son of the immigrant John of New Hampshire, first married Sarah Follett and had issue by her of five children, Joseph, Nicholas, Elizabeth, Abigail, and Sarah. By his second wife, Elizabeth, and his third wife, the Widow Agnes Clark, he had no further issue.

Of the last-mentioned brothers, Joseph was married in 1703 to Charity Nason and removed with her to Nantucket, where they left issue of Patience, Mary, Hannah, John, Nicholas, Moses, Joseph, Sarah, and Elizabeth; while Nicholas resided at Dover and was the father by his wife Lydia of Keziah, Samuel, Nicholas, John, Daniel, and David.

Nathaniel Meader, son of the immigrant John of New Hampshire, also settled at Dover, where he left issue by his wife Eleanor of five children, Lydia, Daniel, Nathaniel, Elizabeth, and Eleanor.

* * *

Nantucket Branch

Francis Meader (b. 1744) was a member of the Nantucket line of the family, but settled for a time at Edgartown, Mass., and later made his home at Industry, Me. By his wife, Mary Holley, he was the father of John, Francis, Christopher Pease, Joseph, Anna, Henry, William, Judith, and Julia.

* * *

Revolutionary War Records

Records of the name in the Revolutionary War include Benjamin, Josiah, Giles, Thomas, and William Meadow or Meadows, of Virginia; Francis, Isaac, Isham, Israel, Jacob, James, Joel, and John Meadows, of Virginia; Vincent Meadow or Meador, of Virginia; Samuel Meader, of Pennsylvania; Isham Meader (also recorded as Meadows), of Tennessee; Joel Meader or

Meaders (also recorded as Meadows), of Tennessee; Jesse and Martin Meader, of Virginia; Daniel Meader, of Maine; Francis and Josiah Meader, of Massachusetts; Ebenezer, Samuel, Stephen, and Timothy Meader, of New Hampshire; Peter Meadow, of Pennsylvania; William Meadows, of Pennsylvania; and James Meadows, of Massachusetts.

* * *

West Virginia Meadors

Josiah and Jacob Meadows, who settled in West Virginia after the surrender of Lord Cornwallis, at Yorktown, were the progenitors of families of the name in Summers County, W.Va., the Middle New River Settlements, and other parts of the South. Josiah had, among others, two sons, Josiah and John Meadows, many of whose descendants spelled the name Meador.

Among the numerous disconnected records of the family in Virginia are those of Henry Meadows, living in Amelia County, Va., before 1772; Hans Meadows, who was living near Richmond about 1788; those of Anderson Meadow(e)s, of Amelia County, who was married in 1790 to Lucy Pollard; those of John Meadow, of Amelia County, who married * Polly Whitworth in 1805; those of John Meadows, of Albemarle County, who married Elizabeth Wyant in 1806; those of James Meadows, of Albemarle County, who married Mary Wyant in 1809; those of Jacob Meadows, of Orange and Highland Counties, who married Nancy Roach in 1815 and was the father by

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* See will of Jeremiah Meador, 1816, herein.

her of Thomas, Mitchell, and Sarah; and those of John Meadows, of Greene County, who was the father in the early nineteenth century of a son named Joek, who was the father of John W., Elijah, and Jeremiah Meadows.

Chiefly distinguished by their work as educators, authors, and scientists, the Meadow and Meadows families have shown themselves to be, on the whole, thoughtful, determined of purpose, exacting in their demands, not only upon others, but upon themselves as well, and frequently possessed of imagination and ingenuity.

James, Peter, Robert, John, Thomas, Daniel, Ralph, Philip, Josiah, and William are some of the male Christian names most frequently recurrent in the annals of the family.

Prominent Names

Among those of the name who have been prominent in America are the following:

Dr. Chastian Clark Meador (b. 1826, d. 1904), founder, Fifth Baptist Church, Washington, D.C.

William Ransom Meadows (b. 1875), of Washington, D.C., government official and author.

Thomas Burton Meadows (b. 1881), of Indiana and Michigan, educator and author.

Leon Renfroe Meadows (b. 1884), of New York, educator.

Robert Meadows (twentieth century), of New York, anthropologist.

John Cassius Meadows (twentieth century), of Tennessee, educator.

Ethel Babb Meadows (twentieth century), of Missouri, poet.

Catherine Meadows (twentieth century), of New York and London, novelist.

Jacob Robert Meadow (b. 1903), of Pennsylvania, chemist.

Clarence Linton Meader (b. 1868), of Michigan, educator and author.

Herman Lee Meader (b. 1874), of New York and Pennsylvania, humorist and author.

Stephen Warren Meader (b. 1898), of New York, author.

A coat of arms of the ancient English family of Meadows, which is believed to have been of common origin with the Meadow family, is described in heraldic terms as follows (Burke, *Encyclopædia of Heraldry*, 1844):

Arms.—"Sable, a chevron ermine between three pelicans with wings endorsed or, vulning themselves proper, on a canton of the third an escutcheon gules, charged with a lion passant guardant or."

Crest.—"Out of a ducal coronet or, a demi eagle displayed sable."

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"History of the Middle New River Settlement" (P. 434) and Bedford County, Virginia, Meadors

Two representatives of this family came to the New River Valley (Giles County) after the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown, about 1782-83. Jacob Meadows came from the County of Rockingham in the Valley of Virginia and was a neighbor of the Elder John Peters, who came to the New River Valley in 1782. In 1781, Jacob Meadows served in the Virginia Militia, under Captain Coker and received a pension in 1832. He settled on the lower east River and is the Ancestor of the Meadows Family there.

Josiah Meadows came from the county of Bedford. He too was an American soldier, having served for two or more years; part of the time on the frontier against the Indians; part in the American Army against the British. He enlisted in the spring of 1778, under Captain Joseph Renfroe, and upon the expiration of his time, re-enlisted under Captain Isaac Taylor. Applied for pension in 1832, when he was 74 years old, later he became a Baptist minister. Among his sons were Josiah, Jr. and John.

Jeremiah Meador, born 1746; d. 1816; m. Elizabeth ——? Probably son of Joel, born in Cumberland County; will probated in Bedford County, 1817.

Children:

William; m. Nancy Ellage, April 3, 1787.
Richard; m. Sarah Yeatts, May 24, 1791.
Mary; m. Dennis McCormick, May 25, 1791.

Jeremiah settled on Staunton River on 1,000 acres of land. His will was probated in 1816-1817. This will and that of Obediah Meador were the first recorded in Bedford County. Bedford County was formed from Lunenburg County in 1754. Lunenburg County was formed from Prince Edward County, and all were a part of Charles City County which was one of the original eight counties of Virginia.

The following data was taken from the records of The Circuit Court of Lunenburg County, Lunenburg, Virginia:

October 2, 1751. Jefris Croley conveys 200 acres on Little Otter River to Jason Meador—D. B. 2, page 319.

September 8, 1763—John Fulton conveys to Joel Meador of the county of Amelia 150 acres on Dunnavent Creek—D. B. 9, page 243.

There are no acccounts of old marriages recorded in this court. The Clerk thinks the reason for this, is that the old ministers lived so far from the Court House that they just neglected to record them.

NOTE—The Meadows began spelling their name Meador in the middle 1700's.

Will of Jeremiah Meadow (Meador)
April 30th, 1816

I Jeremiah Meadow of Bedford County, Virginia, being in a low state of health, but of sound memory, it is my will and desire to dispose of my worldly property as follows:—

1st. It is my desire that my debts be paid out of my movable property.

2nd. I give and bequeath to Jeremiah Meadow, my grandson, his heirs and assigns forever, one-third of my land, to include the plantation whereon he now lives adjoining Jeremiah Jordan's line to extend equal distance on McGeorges (or McGuire's) line, and my spring branch, as it meanders to make the said one-third part.

3rd. I leave to my affectionate wife, Elizabeth, the use and benefit of the other two-thirds of my land, and all my movable property, during her life or widowhood.

4th. I give to my granddaughter, Fanny Whitworth, one-third part of my land to be laid off by one line adjoining McGeorge Mead and Richard Meadow's land, to have possession of at the end of my said wife's life, or widowhood.

5th. I give and bequeath to my grandson, Martin Meadow, son of Richard Meadow, the other one-third of my land which will include the house I now live in, to have possession of when my wife dies or marries.

6th. I give to Thomas Armstrong twenty dollars

provided he lives with my said wife until he is twenty-one years of age, or, during her widowhood.

7th. It is my will and desire that at my wife's death or marriage all my personal property be equally divided amongst my three children, William, Richard and Mary.

Lastly: I constitute and appoint my wife, Elizabeth, and my son, Richard, my executrix, and executor, of this my last will and testament, hereby revoking all other wills by me, and acknowledging this my last will and testament with my hand this the 30th day of April, 1816. Jeremiah Meadow.

Witnesses: James McGeorge.
Edward McGeorge.
Jeremiah Jordan.

Will Book D-4, Page 296.
Recorded 27th January, 1817.
Clerk's Office, Bedford County, Va.

Legend has it that Jeremiah Meador (d. 1816) outlived a number of his children, so they were not mentioned in his will.

List of Movable Property of Jeremiah Meadow as Found by Executors and Reported December 22nd, 1817

1 Cupboard	$3.00	1 Adze, 1 Auger and Trowel	
1 Reel	1.00	1 Wire Sifter	1.25
8 Chairs	2.00	2 Casks	1.50
1 Sand Seive and Bell	.25	1 Large Pewter Basin and Spoon	1.75
1 Trunk	1.00	1 Butter Pot	1.00
4 Gums	1.67	2 Mugs, 2 Bottles and Small Pitcher	1.00
1 Whip Saw	4.00	1 Bay Horse	15.00
1 Scythe and Cradle	.50	1 Red Cow	11.00
1 Dish, 2 Plates	1.00		
3 Bee Stands	3.00		

1 Loom, 10 Shuttles .. 7.50
1 Grid Iron, Curry Comb ..... .75
1 Table 2.00
7 Spoons ..... .58
2 Trays ..... .50
1 Meat Tub, 3 Gums . 1.00
4 Knives and Forks ... .50
1 Tub, 2 Pails and 2 Piggins 2.00
1 Cotton Wheel 2.00
1 Plow Gear 4.00
1 Draw Knife and 1 Reap Hook
3 Hives, 1 Grubbing Hoe, 1 Mattock Lock Chain, 1 Hoe and Old Irons .... .75
1 Table 2.50
2 Flat Irons ..... .25
1 Trunk Old Wheel .. 2.50
1 Flax Wheel 5.00
2 Chests 1.00
1 Bedstead and funtum 30.00
1 Bedstead and funtum 25.00
1 Bedstead Cord and funtum 2.00
Man's Saddle, Bridle, Surcingle, all 10.00

1 Heifer 11.00
1 Red Cow 15.00
Small Pied Heifer ... 4.00
9 Sheep 18.00
1 Sow and 5 Pigs 5.00
5 Shoats 7.50
1 Red Cow and 1 Year'g 15.00
3 Shoats 6.00
1 Pot and Hooks 2.00
1 Oven 1.25
1 Oven and Hooks 1.00
1 Small Pot and Hooks 1.00
1 Bell Metal Kettle ... 2.00
1 Saw, Chisel and Auger .75
1 Saddle 1.00
1 Wedge 1.50
2 Axes 3.00
1 Set Spoon Molds 3.00
1 Wedge 1.50
Frying Pan 1.50
2 Jugs 1.25
1 Crock 1.00
1 Pitcher 1.00
4 Pewter Basins 3.00
1 Dozen Pewter Plates 4.00
1 Fro ..... .50
2 Pewter Dishes 1.25
1 Parcel, Crockery 2.00

William Meador; b. ——; d. ——; m. Nancy Ellage, April 3, 1787, consent of Jeremiah, and Nancy Yeats, mother of Nancy.

Children:

Jeremiah, b. January 18, 1788; d. March 19, 1869; m. Rachel Spradlin, daughter of Abner.

Elizabeth Meador, m. James McLain, February 3, 1806.

Oney Meador, m. Benjamin Meador, a hard shell Baptist minister, November 23, 1817.

"Tempy" Meador, m. Henry (Cub) Lloyd, February 14, 1821.

Charlotte Meador, m. Thomas A. Morgan, August 6, 1826.

Nancy Meador, m. Davy Meador.

"Cal" went to Ohio.

Jeremiah Meador, b. January 18, 1788; d. March 19, 1869; m. Rachel Spradlin, October 24, 1808; daughter, Abner. Rachel Spradlin, b. January 21, 1791; d. March 7, 1864.

Children:

Berryman Meador, b. March 10, 1810; d. 1879; m. Hatcher.

Rose Meador, b. December 23, 1811; d. ——.

Henry Meador, b. May 12, 1814; d. June 4, 1815.

Sara Meador, b. April 4, 1816; d. April, 1903; m. Charles Creasy.

James Gardner Meador, b. July 30, 1830; d. 1889, Kentucky; m. Polly Lumpkin.

Nancy E. Meador, b. 1821; d. 1893; m. James Webber, November 4, 1844.

John Meador, b. February 15, 1825; d.——; (called Jonathan) m. Eliza Boaz, sister of Agnes E. Boaz.

Elizabeth Meador, b. ——; d. ——; m. Samuel Whorley, October 31, 1838.

Chastian Clark, b. October 15, 1826; d. November 9, 1904; m. Nanny Shields.

Edward Andrew, b. April April 22, 1832; d. February 19, 1883; m. Agnes Ellen Boaz, November 26, 1851.

William J. Meador, b. April 22, 1832; d. August 12, 1909; m. Florentine Meador, daughter Obediah.

Oliver Perry Meador, b. November 29, 1832; d. March 22, 1899; m. Mariah Minter, November 29, 1863; Mariah, b. June 2, 1842; d. July 7, 1903.

Three of the above served in the War Between the States, 1861-65: William J., Oliver P. and Edward A., all in Company I, 58th Virginia Infantry, C.S.A., Army of Northern Virginia.

Chastian Clark Meador was the founder and pastor for 47 years (until his death) of the Fifth Baptist Church, Washington, D. C. He died in the pulpit while conducting services.

Joel, or Josiah Meador preached at Mt. Herman, Bedford County, in 1760. He was the great-grandfather of Chastian Clark, who, in 1870, preached at the same place.

Jeremiah Meador, b. 1788, was once a miller for William Dickerson on Goose Creek, Bedford County, Virginia, prior to the Civil War. This mill was washed away in 1877; they had a large number of slaves. Chastian Clark Meador, Jeremiah's son, was a wild young man then; later was converted and began his education to preach at Mt. Herman on north side of County.

Edward Andrew Meador, b. May 7, 1828; d. February 16, 1883; m. November 26, 1851; Ellen Agnes Boaz, b. January 23, 1834; d. April 12, 1873.

Children:

Mary Gardner, b. September 17, 1852; m. Henry P. Huddleston.

Rosamond Russell, b. October 31, 1854; m. J. K. Polk Morgan.

Bettie Catherine, b. July 26, 1857; d. 1862.

Chastian Clark, b. December 9, 1859; d. February 10, 1939; m. Rachel Elizabeth Meador; daughter Oliver Perry.

Jeremiah Wellington, b. March 18, 1861; m. Eliza Lee Kirby.

Sophia Imogene (Jeanie), b. March 16, 1866; m. Samuel P. Harris.

John Early, b. February 8, 1868; m. Flora Motley.

James Robinson, b. May 14, 1869; d. October 15, 1915; m. Alice Bradley.

Walter Lee, b. February 8, 1871; d. October 31, 1899.

Ellen Boaz, b. March 25, 1870; d. August, 1873.

(Edward Andrew, married, second, Ellen Chewning.)

Sarah L., b. January 9, 1878.

Jubal, b. September 23, 1879.

Agnes, m. Hale.

Edward Andrew Meador participated in 14 active battles in the War Between the States.

Jeremiah Wellington Meador, b. March 18, 1861 (son of Edward Andrew); m. Eliza Lee Kirby, b. 1862; d. 1927; marriage, August 2, 1883.

Children:

Birdie, b. June 21, 1884; m. Estes V. Goad, 1909.

Edward Kirby, b. November 6, 1885; m. Jean Campbell Isner, 1932.

Fred Lee, b. January 16, 1887; m. Dora L. Prather, 1913.

Olin Jerry, b. August 10, 1888; m. Zola Burkholder, 1916.

John Clark, b. February 2, 1890; m. Carrie Angel, 1911.

Robert Harris, b. May 12, 1891; m. Comena Updike, 1917.

Henry Hamner, b. January 8, 1893 m. Margaret G. Wood, 1924.

William Clyde, b. February 25, 1894; d. 1895.

Mary Clyde, b. November 9, 1895; m. Charles Little, 1915.

Vonley Howard, b. October 2, 1897; d. 1898.

Thomas Guy, b. February 2, 1899; m. Mary Gertrude Huddleston, 1917.

Walter Perry, b. July 4, 1900; m. Ressie E. Manges, 1928.

Henry Hamner Meador volunteered in World War I, July 28, 1917, and served two years, 18 months of which were in France.

Olin Jerry Meador served 18 months in World War I, 12 months overseas.

Oliver Perry Meador, b. November 29, 1834; d. March 22, 1899; m. November 29, 1863, Mariah James Minter, b. June 2, 1842; d. July 7, 1903. (Son of Jeremiah.)

Children:

Rachel Elizabeth, b. September 17, 1864; d. December 11, 1926; m. Chastian Clark Meador, son of Andrew, November 15, 1883.

Albert Sidney, b. February 8, 1867; d. February 17, 1902; m. Daisy Reese, November 21, 1900.

Johnie E. (daughter), b. September 23, 1870; d. December 11, 1940; m. Samuel McClain, March 7, 1894.

Dolly A., b. August 16, 1872; d. April 15, 1926; m. C. B. Meador, October, 1901.

Lula J., b. June 29, 1876; m. John Ernest Jamison, April 4, 1912.

Robert B., b. May 10, 1878; m. Susie Snaveley.

William G., b. June 28, 1879; d. September 22, 1905.

Oliver Hubert, b. December 12, 1883.

John Early Meador (son of Edward Andrew), b. February 8, 1867; m. Flora M. Motley, October 22, 1866, daughter of Wesley; Flora Motley-Meador d. February 5, 1937.

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Children:

George, b. January, 1887; m. Nora Ellis.

Carrie, b. February, 1890; m. Snooks Moore.

Fred, b. July, 1895.

Hugh, b. October, 1900; m. Thelma Sites.

James Boaz, b. May 30, 1749; d. 1847. (Ancestor of Ellen Agnes Boaz, wife of Edward Andrew Meador.)

James Boaz was born in Rockingham County, Virginia; came to Bedford County, Virginia. Enlisted in Revolutionary War, March, 1777; served four and a half months as Sergeant in Captain Dixon's Company of Virginia in expedition against the Indians to Long Island on the Holston River. He then moved to Pittsylvania County and served in 1779 three months as sergeant under Colonel John Wilson in an expedition against the Tories and helped capture 27 of them. He enlisted again in January, 1781, and served four months as quartermaster sergeant in Captain Thomas Smith's company, and in Colonel Henry Lee's corps of Infantry.

In 1833 while living in Patrick County James Boaz was allowed a pension.

Children named in his will were:—

Robert, Tabitha Boaz-Taylor, Phebe BoazChandler, Agnes Boaz-Pedigo, and Milly Boaz and Mary Boaz-Elliott.

Milly Boaz was willed most of James Boaz' property.

James Boaz' son, Russell, had the following children:

Charles, Russell, James, Alfred, Elizabeth, Polly, Annie, Pat

Russell Boaz and Charles Boaz were in the Mexican War. Both died of yellow fever at Point Comfort, 1848, or earlier.

William Russell Boaz married Penelope Candler, November 11, 1805.

Their son, James Boaz, married Lockie Flowers, August 29, 1829; daughter, William.

Children:

Alfred, d. young.
Mary Boaz, m. James McLain.
Ellen Agnes Boaz, b. 1834; d. 1873; m. Edward Andrew Meador, 1856.
William Russell, d. young.

Elizabeth Boaz, sister of James, m. John Meador, Edward Andrew's brother.

NOTE—Russell was six weeks old when his mother died; the children lived with their grandfather, Russell Boaz. Their father also died young; they were buried in Campbell County, near the old White's Church. Russell's grandfather, James Boaz, Sr., was in 1791, living on land that was willed to him by Robert Russell, his father-in-law, and two of his children were named in his will:— Robert and Tabitha Boaz. James Boaz, Sr., purchased land in Patrick County, 1806. His son, Russell, married 1805; Phebe Boaz m. a Candler.

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTING OFFICE, WASHINGTON,

says, "that on January 29, 1851, satisfactory evidence was presented to the County Court of Patrick County,

Virginia, that the pensioner James Boaz, Sr., died November 12, 1850, and left surviving no widow, but following devisee and legatee, Milly Boaz. . . ."

From Veterans' Administration, Washington, D. C.:—

James Boaz was born May 30, 1749, in Buckingham County, Virginia; name of parents not stated.

On file in claim S. 6694, while a resident of Bedford County, Virginia, James Boaz enlisted some time in March, 1777, served four and a half months as sergeant in Captain Dixon's Virginia Company in an expedition against the Indians to Long Island at Holston.

James Boaz moved to Pittsylvania County, Virginia, and served in 1779 three months as sergeant under Colonel John Wilson in an expedition against the Tories, and assisted in capturing 27. Again he enlisted in the month of January, 1781, and served four months as quartermaster sergeant in Captain Thomas Smith's Company in Colonel Henry Lee's Corps of Infantry.

The soldier, James Boaz, was allowed pension on his application executed May 16th, 1833, at which time he was living in Patrick County, Virginia. Reference was made to his wife, Anna (Russell), who died previous to 1852, and his son, Robert Boaz, who was a resident of Patrick County in 1852.

Certificate 12979 issued June 21st, 1833. Rate $57.50 per annum; commenced March 4th, 1831.

Act of June 7, 1832
Virginia Agency.

In Campbell County Land Order Book No. 25, Page 501

The declaration of Russell Boaz, father of Charles Boaz, deceased, was read in Court claiming the benefits of Congress, February 11, 1847, and July, 1848, granting land and pay to soldiers who died in Mexico, in the service of their country, together with the affidavit of Thomas Brooke and letters of Charles Boaz, deceased, and Certificate of Merit signed by James K. Polk, President of the United States, to prove that Russell Boaz was father of Charles, who enlisted under Lieutenant George W. Getty of 4th Artillery Company C, commanded by Captain Samuel Ridgely, was in all the battles and scaled the wall of Chapultepec, and who died at Point Comfort on his return, together with his brother, Russell, of yellow fever.

Russell Boaz was married in Campbell County, Virginia, 1805; lived and died there near White's Church. He raised Ellen Agnes Boaz, and Mary Boaz, Russell Boaz and Alfred.

The mother died when Ellen Agnes was two years old and her brother, Russell, six weeks old.

Thomas Kirby, b. November 11, 1827; d. August 30, 1874; m. Mary Jane Carner, January 18, 1855; Mary Jane, b. October 8, 1823; d. March 25, 1839. (Father and mother of Eliza Lee Kirby-Meador who married Jeremiah Wellington Meador, August 23, 1883.)

Children:

Elizabeth William (Betty), b. October 17, 1855; d. July 2, 1919; m. John Clements.

Sarah North, b. January 18, 1857; d. 1931; single.

Elijah Carner, b. 1858; d. 1940; m. Fergerson.

John Henry, b. March 11, 1860; d. 1938; m. Ella White.

Eliza Lee, b. October 30, 1858; d. 1927; m. Jeremiah Meador.

Laura Emma, b. 1863; d. 1931; m. Joseph E. Harris, March 6, 1890.

Thomas Kirby was a millwright and came south from Ithaca, New York, to Virginia. He served in the Confederate Army with three sons and two other sons-in-law of Elijah Carner.

Elijah Carner, b. 1800; d. 1862; m. Elizabeth Huddleston, March 29, 1821. Elizabeth Huddleston, b. 1797; d. 1852. (Grandparents of Eliza Lee Kirby-Meador, wife of Jeremiah Wellington.)

Children:

William Henry Carner, b. 1821.
Mary Jane, b. 1832; d. 1888; m. Thomas Kirby.
John ——, b. 1834; d. ——.
Patty, b. 1836; d. 1892; married, Walker.
Joel, b.——; d. ——.
James E., b. 1828; d. 1863.
Eliza, b. 1830; d. 1885; m. Robert Bradley.
Sarah Dawson, b. 1832; d. 1888; m. W. R. Thomas.
Daniel, b. 1834; d. 1894.
Judith Elizabeth, b. 1836; d. 1908 or 1909; m. Tobey Huddleston.
Robert A., b. 1840; d. 1914.
Laura Francis, b. 1828; d. ——; m. John Brown.

Captain Elijah Carner had six sons and six sons-in-law in the Confederate Army, 1861-1865. All returned to tell the story.

William Connor (afterwards changed to Carner), grandfather of Elijah Carner served in Revolutionary War; ensign in 7th Virginia regiment. He died in 1815. He came to America with the British navy to fight the Americans but changed sides when he learned that Lafayette was helping the American patriots. His grave is on the Saunders place near Goodview, Virginia.

Miscellaneous Marriage Records, Bedford County, Virginia

(*Not complete and may contain errors. Corrections are invited*)

1780, August 14, Sara Meadow to Barnes Holliday; daughter, John Meadow.
1782, November 2, Isham Meador to Betty Basham.
1782, December 8, Susannah Meadow to William Martin.
1783, January 9, Thomas Meador to Alice Dowell.
1783, November 3, Ledy Meadow to Thomas Holland.
1783, November 3, Lydia Meador to Thomas Holland. (Thomas Holland and Peter Holland married sisters.)
1784, Mary Meador to Peter Holland. (Peter Holland's son, Meador, represented Franklin County in Virginia Legislature. He had 18 children. Widow's dowry was 1,000 acres of land.)
1785, February 3, Hannah Meador to Thomas Simmons (father of Patrick Simmons and grandfather of Ben and Hooker).
1785, November 17, John Meador to Patty Wood.
1787, February 5, Fanny Meadow to Thomas Holland.
1787, April 3, William Meador to Nancy Ellage; consent of Jeremiah, Sr., and Nancy's mother, Mrs. Yeatts.

1791, May 18, Fanny Meadow to Micajah Dowell.
1791, May 25, Mary Meadow to Dennis McCormick; daughter, Jeremiah, Sr.
1791, May 25, Richard to Sara Yeatts, daughter, Jane; son of Jeremiah, Sr.
1793, September 2, Jehu Meador to Nancy Wright, daughter, John Wright.
1796, September 1, Jehu Meador to Nancy Board.
1796, December 1, Benjamin Meador to Elizabeth Basham; daughter, William.
1796, December 29, Benjamin Meadow and Elizabeth Brown.
1797, October 10, James Meador to Mary Divers.
1800, August 4, Margaret Meadow to Anderson Wood; daughter, Thomas Meadow.
1804, October 29, Drucilla Meadow to William Faulkner; daughter, Thomas and Alseny.
1806, February 3, Elizabeth Meadow to James McLain; daughter,William and Nancy Meadow.
1808, October 24, Jeremiah, Jr., to Rachel Spradlin, daughter, Abner and Sara.
1809, November 9, Polly Meadow to Clement Dickerson; daughter, Obidiah and Prudence Meadow.
1809, December 23, William Meador to Polly Spradlin, daughter Abner and Sara, brother of Jeremiah, Jr.
(William Meador, who married Polly Spradlin, December 23, 1809, was brother of Jeremiah. They married sisters; their children were Thomas, who lived with Jeremiah Meador, and Fanny, Dolly and Nancy.)
1813, May 22, Polly Meadow to James Spradlin; daughter, Richard and Sara Meadow.

1815, December 18, Elizabeth Meadow to Littleberry Wright; Benjamin Meadow on bond.
1816, September 16, Pattie Meadow to Henry Fritts; Joel Meadow on bond.
1817, January 21, Oney Meadow to Thomas Cain; Benjamin Meadow on bond; Benjamin was the Revolutionary Soldier.
1817, February 11, Wilse Meador to Polly Compton.
1818, September 14, Jane Meadow to John Meadow; daughter, John Meadow.
1818, September 14, John Meador to Jane Meador.
1818, November 12, Betsy Meadow to William Hicks; Cal Drake on bond.
1818, November 30, Milly Meadow to Henry Craig; daughter, Richard and Sara Meadow.
1819, November 23, Oney Meadow to Benjamin Meadow, daughter William and Nancy; Benjamin was a hardshell Baptist minister.
1819, November 23, Benjamin Meador to Oney Meador, consent of William and Nancy.
1820, June 13, Peggy Meadow to Richard Spradlin, daughter, Richard and Sara Meadow.
1820, September 25, Jeremiah to Nancy Armstrong; daughter, Mary; son of Richard.
1821, February 4, Tempy Meadow to Henry (Cub) Lloyd; daughter, William and Nancy.
1825, November 29, John C. Meador to Sally Bawlen.
1826, January 17, John Meador to Martha McLain; James, surety.
1826, February 27, Jonas Meador to Polly Lansdum; daughter, William.
1826, August 6, Charlotte Meadow to Thomas A. Morgan; daughter, William and Nancy.

1827, August 23, Joseph J. Meadow to Frances Dooley.
1827, February 26, Sara Meadow to John Spradlin; daughter, Prudence Meadow.
1827, May 1, Wilse Meadow to Mary Wright.
1830, March 15, Lucy Meadow to Warner Basham; daughter, Prudence Meadow.
1830, October 25, Joel Meador to Agnes McGeorge; (Children of Joel Meador now living are Miss Maggie, aged 96; Elvin, aged 90; Mrs. Chandler, another sister, died 1940. They live on Staunton River. John Early Meador lived with them when about 15 years old).
1831, August 13, William Meador to Mahala Meador; daughter, Richard.
1831, August 13, Mahala Meadow to William Meadow; daughter, Richard.
1831, November 25, Obediah to Elizabeth Minter; daughter, Billy Minter.
1832, April 23, Wilson Meador to Mary Wright, consent Matthew Wright.
1832, December 15, Berryman Meador to Catherine Hogan, daughter Heather; (Edward Andrew's brother).
1833, July 30, Malinda Meador to George Clark.
1834, November 20, George Meador to Sara Minter.
1835, March 30, Fenette Jane Meador to Mahlon Morgan; daughter, William.
1836, January 6, James Meador to Sara Booth.
1836, August 9, Calvert Meador to Melinda Speakman; daughter, Jesse.
1836, October 24, Nancy Meador to Abner Spradlin; daughter, Jane.

1836, December 1, Sara (Sally) Meador to Charles Creasy; sister, Andrew.
1837, January 3, William Meador to Susan Nichols; John Dent, surety.
1837, January 11, Richard Meador to Henrietta Bradley; son of Richard and Sara Yeatts-Meador.
1842, Nancy Meador to David Meador; daughter, William and Nancy.
1842, June 27, David Meador to Nancy Meador; William Meador, surety.
1842, August 20, Paschal Meador to Martha Ann Lloyd; daughter Henry.
1844, September 30, Sara Ann Meador to Thomas J. Thomasson; Wilse Meador, surety.
1844, November 28, Nancy Meador to James Webber; daughter Jeremiah; sister, Edward Andrew.
1844, October 28, Abner Meador to Mary J. Spradlin; daughter, Richard and Elizabeth.
1844, October 31, Thomas C. Meador to Catherine Deering; daughter, Richard and Elizabeth.
1844, November 24, James Meador to Matilda Baker; daughter, Thomas.
1846, December 12, Green B. Meador to Mary E. Spradlin; daughter, John.
1847, June 14, James Meador to Sara Ann Spradlin; daughter, James Spradlin.
1848, January 10, Jubal Meador to Elizabeth Meador; daughter, Ananias Meador.
1848, January 17, Burrell Meador to Elizabeth Payne; daughter, John.
1848, January 10, Elizabeth Meador to Jubal Meador; daughter, Ananias Meador.
1848, August 7, Lucy Ann Meador to Josh Booth.

1848, October 24, Sparrell Meador to Mary Gwaltney.
1849, Elizabeth Frances Meador to Benjamin Ellis; daughter, John.
1850, January 28, Florentine Meador to Augustus L. Minter; Captain Minter was Yale man and represented Bedford County in Virginia's Legislature. Florentine was daughter of Wilse Meador.
1850, February 3, Cinderella Meador to James Hix.
1851, August 5, William G. Meador to Elizabeth Hardy; daughter, Joseph H.
1852, March 4, Whit Meador to Sara Ann Maxey, daughter, Isaac M.
1852, November 13, James P. Meador to Jemmima Burnett.
1856, Ananias Meador to Amy Preas.
1857, March 31, Mary to Thomas Ellis; daughter, John Meador.
1857, Juliana Meador to Thomas C. Overstreet.
1858, November 25, Sally C. Meador to Sam McGhee.
1858, December 14, Ann R. Meador to Henry Spradlin.
1862, November 28, John Meador to Amarilla B. Settle.
1863, O. P. Meador to Mariah Minter.
1865, John P. Meador to Martha A. Hawkins; son of Berryman.

NOTE—There is a lack of marriages from 1754 to 1782. Not a single record was entered. The first deed is dated 1760, which is puzzling. The Court House in 1754 was at New London, near Lynchburg, and was moved to Liberty, now Bedford, 1785, so many records were no doubt lost.

1865, Robert Meador to Virginia F. Johnston.
1866, William J. Meador to Florentine ("Tiny") Meador.
1867, James P. Meador to Matilda Octavis Mitchell.
1867, John M. Meador to Ann H. Meador.
1867, William Meador to Catherine Cale.
1869, Obediah Meador to Sara Ellis.
1870, Charles Meador to Sally Brubaker.
1870, James Meador to Laura Smith.
1872, George W. Meador to Narcissus Minter.
1872, Thomas R. Meador to Sara Wilks.
1873, Thomas B. Meador to Matilda Spradlin.
1874, Charles Orville Meador to Fanny Chandler.
1875, Charles Meador to Eliza Holmes.
1875, Willis Meador to Phillus Harvey.
1875, James A. Meador to Eliza Bond.
1878, John W. B. Meador to Ester Drewry.
1880, Ananias Meador to Martha Lloyd.
1883, Jeremiah W. Meador to Eliza Kirby.
1883, Chastian C. Meador to Rachel Elizabeth Meador.
1884, James Meador and Cora B. Spradlin.
1884, Zachariah Meador to Mary L. A. Ellis.
1886, John Early Meador to Flora Motley.
1890, James L. Meador to Pauline Mitchell.
1891, James Ewell Meador and Bettie Fluke.
1892, Jubal Meador to Laura Cooper.
1892, James R. Meador to Alice V. Bradley.
1893, John A. Meador to Ida James Maxey.
1894, Fletcher Meador to Josephine Rucker.
1894, William Meador to Annie E. Ellis.
1896, General J. Meador to Ollie P. Ray.
1897, John Meador to Alice E. Holland.
1898, Thomas R. Meador to Sara Brooks.

1898, Ewell Meador to Nora Meador.
1899, John W. Meador to Annie Williamson.
1899, William E. Meador to Ora Luck.
1900, James W. Meador to Addie Draper.
1900, John S. Meador to Margaret W. Arrenton; on north side.
1900, Albert S. "Brud" Meador to Daisy Lee Reed; Oliver Perry's son.
1901, Robert Meador to Rennie E. Carner.
1901, John William Meador to Pearl Murphy.
1902, James W. Meador to Martha J. Webber.
1903, John William Meador to Rose Board.
1903, R. E. Meador to Evvy Lee Carroll.
1904, John Elliott Meador to Lena Cleveland Newman.
1904, James Herbert Meador and Ellen Ora Chilton; live on Taylor's Mountain.
1904, William B. Meador to Berta Cunningham.
1909, Edward F. Meador to Zula Gray.
1906, John Elliott Meador to Lilian Wheeler.
1907, William Meador to Lena Estelle Bradley.
1908, John Meador to Maggie Cobb.
1908, Harvey Meador to Elizabeth McGeorge.
1908, Letcher Meador to Mary E. Wright.
1908, Samuel H. Meador to Nannie E. Anderson.
1910, Victor Meador to Lallie Hunt.
1910, George W. Meador to Nora Ellis.
1910, Walter Meador to Maggie Burdett.
1912, Jackson Meador to Fanny M. Miller.
1914, Wiley B. Meador to Jerusha S. Hanabas.
1915, Berna Meador to Betty Martin.
1917, Olin J. Meador to Zola Burkholder.
1920, Robert Lee Meador to Willie Huddleston; widow of Will H.

1921, Christopher Meador to Sara Karnes.
1921, General Grant Meador to Irma Meador.
1921, James Noble Meador to Folsom C. Kasey.
1922, Harry A. Meador to Lula Harris.
1922, Lewis Vernon Meador to Mary Lewis Callahan.
1922, John W. Meador to Lucie Bond.
1922, J. M. Meador to Mattie Logwood.
1924, Henry H. Meador to Margaret G. Wood.
1926, James Z. Meador to Vaughnie Martin.
1926, James L. Meador to Callie J. Cundiff.
1926, Bryant Meador to Blanch Daniel.
1927, Frank Meador to Zula Ruth Hanabas.
1934, Pete Meador to Annie Lynch.
1934, Charles Raymond Meador to Marion O. Goode.
1935, Benjamin Elmo Meador to Helen B. Brown.
1936, William Edward Meador to Gracie J. Williamson.
1936, John Elliott Meador to Verna May Waldron.
1937, Clark Roland Meador to Lois May Ayers.
1939, Tazewell Bedford Meador to Fanny L. Martin.
1940, Sherwood Elmo Meador to Adaline E. Sink.
1940, George William Meador to Mary E. Moss.

Why You Have a Family Name and What It Means *

Primitive personal names doubtless originated soon after the invention of spoken language, in the dark ages long preceding recorded history. For thousands of years thereafter first or given names were the only designations that men and women bore; and at the dawn of historic times, when the world was less crowded than it is today and every man knew his neighbor, one title of address was sufficient. Only gradually, with the passing centuries and the increasing complexity of civilized society, did a need arise for more specific designations. While the roots of our system of family names may be traced back to early civilized times, actually the hereditary surname as we know it today dates from scarcely more than nine hundred years ago.

A surname is a name added to a baptismal or given name for the purposes of making it more specific and of indicating family relationship or descent. Classified according to origin, most surnames fall into four general groups: (1) those formed from the given name of the sire; (2) those arising from bodily or personal characteristics; (3) those derived from locality or place of residence; and (4) those derived from occupation. It is easier to understand the story of the development of our institution of surnames if these classifications are borne in mind.

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As early as Biblical times certain distinguishing appellations were occasionally employed in addition to the given name, as, for instance, Joshua the son of Nun, Azariah the son of Nathan, Judas of Galilee, and Simon the Zealot. In ancient Greece a daughter was named after her father, as Chryseis, daughter of Chryses; and a son's name was often an enlarged form of his father's, as Hieronymus, son of Hiero. The Romans, with the rise of their civilization, met the need for hereditary designations by inventing a complex system whereby every patrician took several names. None of them, however, exactly corresponded to surnames as we know them, for the "clan name," although hereditary, was given also to slaves and other dependents. This system proved to be but a temporary innovation; the overthrow of the Western Empire by barbarian invaders brought about its end and a reversion to the primitive custom of a single name.

The ancient Scandinavians and for the most part the Germans had only individual names, and there were no family names, strictly speaking, among the Celts. But as family and tribal groups grew in size, individual names became inadequate and the need for supplementary designations began to be felt. Among the first employed were such terms as the Hardy, the Stern, the Dreadful-in-Battle; and the nations of northern Europe soon adopted the practice of adding the father's name to the son's, as Oscar son of Carnuth and Dermid son of Duthno.

True surnames, in the sense of hereditary appellations, date in England from about the year 1000. Largely they were introduced from Normandy, although there are records of Saxon surnames prior to the Norman Conquest. During the reign of Edward

the Confessor (1042-1066) there were Saxon tenants in Suffolk bearing such names as Suert Magno, Stigand Soror, Siuward Rufus, and Leuric Hobbesune (Hobson); and the Domesday record of 1085-1086, which exhibits some curious combinations of Saxon forenames with Norman family names, shows surnames in still more general use. By the end of the twelfth century hereditary names had become common in England. But even by 1465 they were not universal. During the reign of Edward V a law was passed to compel certain Irish outlaws to adopt surnames: "They shall take unto them a Surname, either of some Town, or some Colour, as Blacke or Brown, or some Art or Science, as Smyth or Carpenter, or some Office, as Cooke or Butler." And as late as the beginning of the nineteenth century a similar decree compelled Jews in Germany and Austria to add a German surname to the single names that they had previously used.

As stated about, family names fall into four general classes according to their origin. One of these classes comprises surnames derived from the given name of the father. Such names were formed by adding a prefix or suffix denoting either "son of" or a diminutive. English names terminating in *son* (or the contraction *s*), *ing*, and *kin* are of this type, as are also the innumerable names prefixed with the Gaelic *Mac,* the Norman *Fitz,* the Irish *O,* and the Welsh *ap.* Thus the sons of John became Johnsons; the sons of William, Williamsons or Wilsons; the sons of Richard, Richardsons or Richardses; the sons of Neill, MacNeills; the sons of Herbert, FitzHerberts; the sons of Reilly, O'Reillys; and the sons of Thomas, ap Thomases (*ap* has been dropped from many names of which it was formerly a part). There are also German, Netherlandish, Scan-

dinavian, and other European surnames of similar formation, such as the Scandinavian names ending in *sen*.

Another class of surnames, those arising from some bodily or personal characteristic or their first bearer, apparently grew out of what were in the first instance nicknames. Thus Peter the strong became Peter Strong, Roger of small stature became Roger Little or Roger Small, and black-haired William or blond Alfred became William Black or Alfred White. A few examples of names of this type are Long, Short, Hardy, Wise, Good, Gladman, Lover, and Youngman.

A third class of family names, and perhaps the largest of all, is that comprising local surnames—names derived from and originally designating the place of residence of the bearer. Such names were employed in France at an early date and were introduced into England by the Normans, many of whom were known by the titles of their estates. The surnames adopted by the nobility were chiefly of this type, being used with the particles *de, de la,* or *del* (meaning "of" or "of the"). The Saxon equivalent was the word atte ("at the"), found in such names as John atte Brook, Edmund atte Lane, Godwin atte Brigg, and William atte Bourne. A vestige of this usage survives in the names Atwell, Atwood, and Atwater; in other cases the Norman *de* was substituted; and in still others, such as Wood, Briggs, and Lane, the particle was dropped. The surnames of some of the Pilgrim Fathers illustrate place designations. Winthrop, for instance, means "of the friendly village"; Endicott, "an end cottage"; and Bradford, "a broad ford." The suffixes "ford," "ham," "ley," and "ton," denoting locality, are of frequent occurrence in such English names as Ashford, Bingham, Burley, and Norton.

Commencing about the time of Edward the Confessor a fourth class of surnames arose—names derived from occupation. The earliest of these seem to have been official names, such as Bishop, Mayor, Alderman, Reeve, Sheriff, Chamberlain, Chancellor, Chaplain, Deacon, Latimer (interpreter), Marshall, Sumner (summoner), and Parker (park-keeper). Trade and craft names, although of the same general type, were a slightly later development. Currier was a dresser of skins, Webster a weaver, Wainwright a wagonbuilder, and Baxter a baker. Such names as Smith, Taylor, Barber, Shepherd, Carter, Mason, and Miller are self-explanatory.

Some surnames of today which seem to defy classification or explanation are corruptions of ancient forms that have become disguised almost beyond recognition. For instance, Troublefield was originally Tuberville, Wrinch was Renshaw, Diggles was Douglas, Sinnocks and Snooks were Sevenoaks, Barrowcliff and Berrycloth were Barraclough, and Strawbridge was Stourbridge. Such corruptions of family names, resulting from ignorance of spelling, variations in pronunciation, or merely from the preference of the bearer, tend to baffle both the genealogist and the etymologist. Shakespeare's name is found in some twenty-seven different forms, and the majority of English and Anglo-American surnames have, in their history, appeared in four to a dozen or more variant spellings.

In the United States a greater variety of family names exists than anywhere else in the world. Surnames of every race and nation are represented. While a substantial number are of English, Scotch, Irish, Welsh, and western European origin, brought to this country by scions of families that had borne these names

for generations prior to emigration, many others have come from central and southern Europe and the Slavic countries, where the use of surnames is generally a more recently established practice. Some families had no fixed surname until after their arrival in America; and in other cases emigrants from continental Europe or their descendants have translated or otherwise modified their names. These factors contribute to the difficulties encountered by students of etymology and family history.

Those Americans who possess old and honored names—who trace their surnames back to sturdy immigrant ancestors, or beyond, across the seas and into the mists of antiquity—may be rightfully proud of their heritage. While the name, in its origin, may seem ingenious, humble, surprising, or matter-of-fact, its significance today lies not in a literal interpretation of its initial meaning but in the many things that have happened to it since it first came into use. In the beginning it was only a label to distinguish one John from his neighbor John who lived across the field. But soon it established itself as part of the bearer's individuality; and as it passed to his children, his children's children, and their children, it became the symbol not of one man but of a family and all that that family stood for. Handed down from generation to generation, the surname grew inseparably associated with the achievement, the tradition, and the prestige of the family. Like the coat of arms—that vivid symbolization of the name which warrior ancestors bore in battle—the name itself has become a badge of family honor. It has become the "good name" to be proud of and to protect as one's most treasured possession.

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COAT OF ARMS OF THE MEADOR FAMILY

This Coat of Arms originated at Wytnesham, Norfolk County, England, 1188. From the original ancestor, Robert of the Meadow, according to early American and ancient English records the name has come to be spelled in various ways, such as, Medowe, Medewe, Medew, Meader, Meaders, Meador, Meadours, Medo, Medow, Medowes, Medows, Meadowes, Meadowe, Meadow, Meadows, and others. Of these Meadow, Meadows and Meador are the forms most frequently used in America in modern times.

As early as 1638 two members of the family, Nicholas and Jonathan or John Meador came to America and settled in Charles City County and Henrico County, Virginia. Afterwards members settled in Lunenburg and Bedford Counties.

The inscription, "Mea dos virtus," is translated "Virtue is my dowry." It is also translated "Courage and manliness is my dowry."

Records of the name in the Revolutionary War include Isaac, Isham, Israel, Jacob, James, Joel, John and Vincent Meador, Meadow or Meadows of Virginia, and New Hampshire.

The Meadors are as a whole somewhat exacting and conscientious in their dealings with others and themselves.

It is estimated that there are several millions of the family and their descendents in the United States.

A copy of this Coat of Arms, in four colors, 11 inches X 15 inches in size, for framing, will be mailed for $2.00.

MEADOR PUBLISHING COMPANY
324 Newbury Street, Boston, Massachusetts

THE AMERICAN FAMILY IS THE FOUNDATION!

Believing that the Family is the Foundation of all Government THE NATIONAL FAMILY ASSOCIATION has been incorporated. Our purpose is to encourage and to charter Family Associations in every community.

Every child has a right to have plans for his future made. With so much thought given to training young people for a life-work there is little sense or logic in shoving them out into a world already overcrowded and with millions unemployed to scramble for a place. Society must have a balanced program. Minimum requirements of land, industry, and distribution must be set as a standard for the family unit in the national economy. Here is a number one question for the Family Association.

All members of the Family and Community are entitled to equal rights and fair and impartial administration of law and public affairs. Each community is entitled to honest and the most efficient representation possible in the councils and legislatures of the City, County, State and Nation.

Since most political corruption starts in local wards and communities Family Associations can give America a new freedom by cleaning up local politics. Public servants, like headstrong children, must constantly feel the guiding reins of the best minds of the Families. Good government like good health requires constant attention.

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